



County of San Diego

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION
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ATTENTION: GENERATORS OF EMPTY OR CONTAMINATED CONTAINERS

On May 29, 1992, the State of California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) adopted Section 66261.7 of the California Code of Regulations, Title 22 which addresses contaminated containers. These regulations encourage recycling and other options for disposal of "**empty**" or "**contaminated**" containers.

WHAT IS AN "EMPTY" CONTAINER?

- 1) If the container stored a hazardous liquid, then it must be completely drained, so that no liquid can drain from the container when it is tilted or held upside down.
- 2) If the container stored a solid or non-pourable hazardous material (powders, sludges, grease, thick resins, etc.) then it must be completely scraped out with no remaining buildup inside the container.
- 3) Aerosol containers are "empty" if the contents and pressure are completely dispensed and the spray mechanism is in place and not defective and it is not a reactive waste (...i.e., where the container may explode).

PLEASE NOTE: Containers which held a listed **extremely hazardous** material must be managed as **hazardous waste** or you must obtain authorization from the State DTSC to triple rinse or treat the container.

On the reverse side of this bulletin is a chart describing the disposal or recycling options for empty containers.

WHAT ARE THE "EMPTY" CONTAINER DISPOSAL OPTIONS?

CONTAINER TYPE/SIZE

DISPOSAL OPTIONS FOR <u>EMPTY</u> CONTAINERS	Empty Container of 5 Gallons or Less in Size	Empty Container of Greater than 5 Gallons in Size	Empty Aerosols Cans	Absorptive Containers (wood, paper, bags, etc.) which has not Absorbed Any Hazardous Material	Empty Compressed Gas Cylinders (At Atmospheric Pressure)
To the original SUPPLIER for refilling	OK	OK	—	OK	OK
To a DRUM RECONDITIONER	OK	OK	—	—	—
To a SCRAP METAL/PLASTIC or other legitimate authorized recycling facility	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK Remove valve stem
* To a solid waste facility (top of container must be removed and appointment may be needed for bulk amounts)	OK	NO No containers greater than 5 gallons will be accepted at local landfills	OK Spray nozzle must be in place	OK	OK Remove valve stem
To a HAZARDOUS WASTE disposal facility (TSDF)	Requirement if container is not "empty"	OK	Requirement if spray nozzle broken or the can is not empty	Required if hazardous material absorbed into container	Required if not "empty"

*** Recycling options should be considered first. Use a solid waste facility (landfill) only as a last resort.**

Transportation and packaging of the empty containers must be in accordance with applicable State of California, Department of Transportation (DOT) and DTSC regulations.

The following additional requirements must be met for "empty" containers **greater than 5 gallons in capacity**:

- 1) The container shall be marked with the date it was emptied.
- 2) The container shall be managed within one year of being emptied.
- 3) The generator shall provide the name, street address, mailing address and telephone number of the facility where the "empty" container has been shipped. This information shall be maintained on-site for 3 years by the generator.

Please contact the Hazardous Materials Division, Duty Specialist at (619) 338-2231, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., if you have any further questions.

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